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Ballay Dahlia Gardens PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

1931

Ballay Dahlia Gardens

R. D. 1, Box 675
Palo Alto, California

(Member of the National Association of Commercial Dahlia Growers)

Telephone: Palo Alto 3570

EASTERN REPRESENTATIVE:

Success Dahlia Gardens, Lawrence, Mass.

A Suggestion

It is hard to choose what is best to plant in a plot where only a limited number of dahlias can be accommodated. If you are looking for a dozen good ones we suggest those which won for us the Palace Hotel Trophy Cup offered for the "BEST TWELVE CALIFORNIANS," namely:

Conquistador Aztec Glory
Mrs. Alfred B. Seal Seal's Californian
Donna California Nova
Charles G. Reed Fair Elaine
Ivory Dahliamum
Sultana Al Koran

The whole collection of 12 for FIFTY DOLLARS.

A SPECIAL COLLECTION of 12 varieties for \$10.00 we also suggest for your consideration. This collection is worth three times the amount charged and is the most economical dahlia investment you can make.

ORDER EARLY—Shipments are made about April 1st unless otherwise specified.

WE GUARANTEE that all roots are sent true to name and in good growing condition. Prices are for field grown root divisions. We do not sell CLUMPS, PLANTS or SEEDS.

REMITTANCE should be made with order unless other arrangements have been made.

FULL DIRECTIONS for the care of your dahlia garden are enclosed with each shipment.

EXPLANATION OF TYPES—

DECORATIVE (Dec.)—Double flowers, full to the center, usually with broad, flat, or recurved loosely formed petals.

CACTUS (Cac.)—Long, narrow, pointed petals, rolled and incurved, full to the center, resembling a chrysanthemum. The American cactus is coarser petaled than the English type.

HYBRID CACTUS (Hyb. Cac.)—Flowers fully double, petals broad, twisted and often only slightly incurved, and rolled less than half their length. Larger and heavier than the true cactus. PEONY—Semi-double flowers showing a bright yellow center, having small twisted petals circling

about the center.

Our New Introductions For 1931

- BING—(Dec.) Deep cherry red with a lighter reverse. A fine clean dark red, large and distinctive. Petals are of velvet-like texture, broad and slightly waved. Does not fade. Stem is straight and strong. We think it is the prettiest and most satisfactory variety in this coloring. Good for all purposes \$5.00
- CELESTE—(Dec.) Lilac pink overlaid with carmine. A very handsome large flower that is attractive especially because of its peculiar shadings of color. The well branched plant produces deep, well built blooms over a long period. There are no faults noticeable to take from the general usefulness of this valuable addition to dahlias of this color range....\$10.00
- DOLOROSA—(Dec.) Deep bluish lavender. The blue is just a little more pronounced than has appeared heretofore. Perhaps it is a step toward a real blue, if that much heralded specimen ever comes. At any rate, this is a very pleasing variety with big full flowers held upright on long hard stems. The petals are somewhat pointed, the center is tight and holds well, plant appears to have more flowers than leaves _______\$10.00
- GABRIEL—(Hyb. Cac.) Carmine pink, or what might be termed "watermelon." This variety is an early and free bloomer, and the blooms are really spectacular. Very large and deep, they lead the garden in interest in the early season. As the season advances the stem is not always good especially if the plant is allowed to become too bushy. All things considered, we can recommend it as a dahlia that will bring the grower much pleasure and cause his friends to gasp and wonder \$10.00
- KO-LANG—(Dec.) Bright copper and gold. This is a delightfully improved "Chang," brighter in color and with better formation. This blending of autumn colors is particularly fascinating. The flowers of immense size are held straight up on tall robust stalks which produce freely the whole season. The slightly irregular formation of the flower would classify it as an informal decorative, which makes it all the more interesting\$10.00
- NAVARRE—(Dec.) Flaming orange. In this dahlia there is color of intense brilliancy. It is as rich and bright as it would seem possible for a color to be. The bloom is only of medium size but is nowise insignificant. Formation and stem are always good. We have found it very useful for cutting and it was very popular with those who were looking for varieties for household decoration \$5.00
- RAJAH—(Hyb. Cac.) Golden orange with a gold reverse. Decidedly in the cactus class, the nicely incurved petals being rolled their entire length. In addition, the centers and stems are always good, and there is no waste through imperfect flowers. Plant is of medium height and is very floriferous. If carefully disbudded the blooms can be grown to exhibition size. Excellent for cutting _________\$5.00
- RAPIDAN—(Dec.) Golden bronze. A huge symmetrical flower borne upright on an extra long thick stem. A dozen perfect blooms can be cut from the plant at one time and little disbudding is required. These features combined with the lively coloring, which is exactly what the florists want, has already made Rapidan invaluable as a commercial variety. A leading San Francisco florist took every bloom we could supply and said there was no worry about them keeping fresh. It might be called a cut-and-come-again variety, as crop after crop of choice blooms succeeded each other through the whole season. Not spectacular but absolutely reliable and ornamental \$15.00
- RED LION—(Dec.) Bright red. Another large dahlia that serves the florists' purpose well. A vivid red is always desirable when it has all the good qualities which this dahlia possesses. Quantities of first-class blooms loaded the bushes until the very end which never fade or burn. Stems hold the flowers just right whether desired for garden display or for the house. The bloom is oval shaped with broad heavy petals continuing well to the small pointed center \$5.00

- ROYAL FLUSH—(Dec.) Brightest scarlet. A sensational variety both as to color and size. One bloom we measured was 11½ inches and there were larger ones. Considering that our dahlias receive only ordinary field culture, such blooms demonstrate the possibilities of this flower. Furthermore, the brilliant coloring seems also to accentuate the size. The formation is full and deep and the stem strong and sufficiently long. Performance was fine all season. On Western Roll of honor for 1930. We do not hesitate to boost Royal Flush

Other Dahlias of Our Own Creation

- AMAZON—(Dec.) Bright coral pink, deeper at the center, and with a suffusion of pale gold on the inner petals. The flower is large and grows very erect. Decidedly decorative in type but not formal. A fascinating cut flower and distinctive on the exhibition table..........\$1.50

- CHARLES G. REED—(Dec.) Purple red. This is the color in plainest words. Exactly petunia red is what an authority on dress materials called it—a lively shade not far from crimson. Was awarded First Prize for the best dahlia of red coloring at the Palace Hotel Show in 1929, was adjudged one of the "Best 12 Californians" in the 1930 show, and has also won prizes in the East. Furthermore, it appears on both the 1929 and 1930 Dahlia Roll of Honor of outstanding varieties specially prepared each year for the December issue of the American Home Magazine. This variety is unusually large and is held upright on a perfect stem. The big, broad petals, a deep full center, and the great profusion of bloom, have caused several of our visitors to exclaim that it was the most beautiful dahlia they had ever seen. Bush is of rather low growth with the branching habit which makes it ideal for all purposes. Mr. Charles G. Reed of Lawrence, Mass., our Eastern representative, for whom this dahlia was named, has written us this year that this should have been a \$25.00 dahlia..\$10.00

- DERBY—(Dec.) Pale bluish lavender throughout, almost the shade of the for-get-me-not. There is unusual character about this perpetual blooming variety with its crisp, light green foliage. It is difficult to make descriptions varied and yet not constantly repeat that the forma-



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- DONNA CALIFORNIA—(Dec.) Deep rose pink suffused with lavender. The color is not new but it is doubtless the largest dahlia by far of that coloring. In fact it is one of the largest dahlias that we have ever grown in our gardens, 12-inch blooms having been produced without effort through a long period. The flower is not particularly heavy considering its great size, as its even petal formation is loosely arranged rather than solid. The stems are very strong and very long. Last year we won the prize for the best established three-year-old at the Palace Hotel with six blooms of this giant dahlia, and this year it was the best 18 blooms of one variety. It is also on the Dahlia Roll of Honor for both 1929 and 1930. Illustrated on page 5
- FABIOLA—(Dec.) Pure unshaded lavender. This is a large and good dahlia in the most pleasing shade of lavender. In November the color was still unchanged and the full broad petaled flowers would still have been suitable for exhibition. The first blooms are rather short stemmed and should be disbudded accordingly in order to bring the next crop well out of the bushes. A dahlia that will appeal particularly to those who judge a variety by its late blooms \$3.50

- GAIETY—(Dec.) Pale true pink. A dahlia somewhat on the style of Jersey's Beauty but of a different color. It is not much larger than the older dahlia but has the same good stems and similar formation. This variety is free blooming and is very useful and beautiful for interior purposes _________\$2.50
- GAINSBOROUGH—(Dec.) Bright clear rose. An exquisite color that is especially attractive in the sunshine or under artificial light. Good for all purposes but especially recommended as a cut flower. In the garden it is a free and constant bloomer, needs little disbudding, and is of an outstanding color \$1.50



CONQUISTADOR

For Description See Page 4

- LOUVAIN—(Dec.) Brown rose. This is the color as near as we can express it. The predominating shade is decidedly a light or golden brown, with a suggestion of old rose on the reverse side of the petals which shows through slightly. Grows perfectly straight on a long stem. A large but not massive flower of finest formation. No other dahlia we know of surpasses its lasting qualities when cut \$2.00
- MAGIC—(Hyb. Cac.) Wine red. This variety is nothing like the old maroon hybrids, but has a dull silk-like appearance that has not been seen before in dahlias. The formation is full with well incurved petals and the beauty of the flower is enhanced by a touch of very dark red at the center. Flowers are very large for a good portion of the season and remain closed late into the fall. Stems are good. Plants are of rather low growth and produce well \$7.50
- MAYFAIR—(Dec.) Deep old rose with a slight violet suffusion. A big, bold flower, deep and full, and of a very charming color. Long, strong stems that are good early in the season but will droop slightly as the season advances. Plant is of sturdy growth and is always in bloom. This is a variety that attracts a lot of attention and is very handsome whether growing or cut _________\$5.00

- NEDRA—(Dec.) Lavender pink. Some dahlias are at their best in mid-season, others improve when the shorter days produce slower growth. This dahlia is at its best in normal weather and can be counted on at Show time; in the late fall the centers open. The shade of color is clear and true. The blossom is large and oval shaped with broad heavy petals continuing well to the small pointed center. Stems are strong and grow straight out of the bushes..\$7.50

- SAN JOSE—(Peony) Purplish crimson or bright reddish cerise. We are unable from the color chart to determine the exact color. This incomparable peony will produce blooms a foot across and so brilliantly colored as to be truly a spectacle. The broad petals combined with the most numerous small circling petals around the well pollinated center completes a flower of the most perfect type of peony dahlia. We have been informed that "San Jose" did not have a good stem in some localities. With us, while not always straight, the stem has never been pendant \$4.00

- VOGUE—(Dec.) Bright salmon, or peach, as some cut flower customers insisted on calling it. This fine medium sized dahlia is primarily a cut flower variety. It keeps a week when cut and is of a color that seems especially adapted to that purpose. Best of stems, freedom in blooming, but not very large. A plant in the garden itself looks like a bouquet..........\$2.50
- WINONA—(Dec.) Purplish lavender, or shall we call it amethyst? It is a lively color that some people refer to as a light purple, but is more properly, we think, a deep lavender. The center of the inner petals of the flower were inclined to a lighter shading. Planted in the front row of our garden, as the plant is rather dwarf, Winona certainly proved a valuable advertisement of large up-to-date dahlias for us \$1.50

Good Varieties of Other Growers

- A. A. STYVERS—Hyb. Cac. (Boston) Salmon shaded with amber. Tall growing variety of a very distinctive type of hybrid cactus. Full flowers, with well incurved petals, that attain large size. Blooms long and well and does not change its color or formation ______\$10.00
- ARDIS—Dec. (Garrity-Williams) Bluish violet or purple. This variety is also sold under the name of Palmdale. The color, which is uncommon in dahlias, is most pleasing, and the flower is quite large, well formed and held on a good stem _______\$1.50
- BARBARA REDFERN—Dec. (Redfern) Old gold suffused with old rose. A good large dahlia that has been grown in many places with marked success. It is especially adapted to a warm location where its full formation develops to perfection. A very strong stem adds to its general usefulness \$3.50

- CHAMPAGNE—Dec. (Boston) Dull, golden champagne. An entrancing color and an irresistible dahlia in every way. Large flower, extra long stem, lasts a long time on the bush as well as when cut \$1.00

- ELIZABETH BOSTON—Peony (Boston) Deep crimson shading to gold at the tips. One of the largest and best peonies. Free blooming and sturdy \$1.50

F. W. BUTLER—Dec. (Boston) Gold heavily suffused with deep re the originator describing it as her largest introduction. Win the Palace Hotel show in 1929. The plant is of medium heigh The flower is quite regularly formed with a solid center	ner as the largest dahlia in t and carries the flowers well
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- FAITH GARIBALDI—Dec. (Boston) Clear rose pink. A gold medal dahlia that has won many prizes. Flowers are large and well formed with long stout stems _______\$1.00
- FRANCESCA—Dec. (Carbone-Davis) Dull rose suffused with gold and violet. A very refined 1929 introduction that bloomed nicely for us through a long period. Large flower of good substance on a matchless stem \$2.50

- INKYO—Hyb. Cac. (Barker) Deep maroon. Like Black Jack in color but decidedly hybrid cactus in form. Medium size with good stem and keeping qualities \$1.00
- IVORY—Dec. (Boston) Ivory white. This is an excellent variety of rare coloring and pleasing appearance. The blossoms are large and composed of long, pointed petals that curve backward slightly. Can be recommended for all purposes \$10.00
- JANE COWL—Dec. (Downs) Bronzy buff shading to gold at the center. This is one of the most popular dahlias of recent years. Originated in New Jersey, it appears to adapt itself readily to all localities and has won prizes in many parts of the country. The very large informal flower grows upright on an ideal stem and the strong foliage is habitually clean and healthy.

 \$5.00
- JERSEY'S BEACON—Dec. (Waite) Oriental red with a reverse of tan. The brilliant blossom is large and deep and held up well on a tall stalk. A very fine eastern dahlia _______\$1.00
- JOY—Dec. (Boston) Clear silvery lavender throughout, "Shudow's Lavender" without any white shading and with the same excellent qualities as the older dahlia. One of the best.......\$4.00
- JUDGE LEON McCORD—Dec. (Boston) Deep gold with old rose reverse. A very large deep flower of regular formation. The plant has a strong vigorous habit of growth and every bloom is large and perfect. Very strong stem, good keeper \$10.00
- KENDALL GLORY—Cac. (Kendall) Clear red. This is a dahlia of good size for the true cactus type. It will not fade or burn in the sunshine. The attractive spidery bloom is well formed and well supported by long wiry stems. New 1930 ________\$5.00

- MISSION BELL—Dec. (Tivoli) Bright pink with a touch of magenta. This is a beautiful flower of fine coloring and large size. Stems and centers always good. Seedling class at the Auditorium Show in San Francisco in 1929 \$5.00

Pom Pon Dahlias

We have a limited stock of Pom Pons as listed below.

AMBER—Pure amber\$.50
BANTAM—Red	.50
DANDY—Bright orange	.50
DARKEST OF ALL—Deep maroon	.50
DEE DEE—Pure lavender	.50
EDGAR—Soft cream	.75
GLOW—Old rose	.50
HELEN ANITA—Pinkish lavender shading lighter at center	.50
JOAN—Yellow suffused with red	.50
JOE FETTE—White	.50
LEDA BEELER—Bright lavender	.50
LLOYD HICKMAN—Bright rose	.75
MAJOR—Deep old rose shading to yellow	.75
MARY MUNNS—Cerise pink	.75
MIKE—Burnt orange	.50
NELLIE FRASER—Mauve pink	.50
OMEGA—Amethyst	.75
ROSEBUD—Deep rose shading to white at center	.50
YELLOW GEM—True yellow	.50

BALLAY DAHLIA GARDENS

R. D. 1, Box 675

Palo Alto, Calif.

- NATALIE KINGSTON—Dec. (Warren) Chrome yellow. This seedling of "Bashful Giant" is of tremendous size and with a better stem than the older variety. A deep, full flower with the water-lily petal formation. Largest dahlia in the Los Angeles Show in 1929......\$25.00

- PRINCE ALBERT—Dec. (Tivoli) Rosy pink with reddish reverse. An odd color that is hard to describe. The graceful flower is large and strong-stemmed and is always much admired in the show room \$3.50
- REGAL—Dec. (Boston) Bronze heavily suffused with dull old rose. This is another very large dahlia, which retains its size well into the fall. The stems remain strong and straight through the whole season and the plant is a free bloomer. Has been grown successfully in many places \$5.00

- WAVERLIE—Dec. (McWhirter) Lively shade of lavender. A decorative of the informal type with artistically waved petals. Large size and good habits. Winner at the Palace Hotel as best ten blooms of one variety \$10.00
- W. H. WAITE—Hyb. Cac. (Boston) Shell pink shading to a cream center. This is a delightful new dahlia that is a winner in the "pink" class. It is a typical semi-cactus with ideal habits. The large flower is most artistic and beautiful ______\$20.00



VALESKA

For Description See Page 9